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Mass. Riverways Newsletter, Fall 1995

A Publication of the Riverways Program

Department of Fisheries, Wildlife and Environmental Law Enforcement,

John C. Phillips, *Commissioner*

Executive Office of Environmental Affairs, Trudy Coxe, *Secretary* William
F. Weld, *Governor*

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The Massachusetts Watershed Initiative: Form and Function

Following over a year discussions among various watershed associations, environmental non-profits, state agencies, staff of Trudy Coxe, Secretary of the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs (EOEA), municipalities, businesses and consultants, the Massachusetts Watershed Initiative is alive and thriving. While not all issues are resolved and funding and program changes are not yet in place, we know what the issues are, what funding is needed and what parts the many participants are taking to make this work as a successful management and protection strategy for our rivers, streams and their surrounding watersheds.

We have learned a lot from each other over the last year and a half, particularly from our combined efforts to put the Watershed Initiative to work in the Neponset River Watershed. There, the several component parts are working together to implement the watershed approach:

Neponset River Watershed Association

NepRWA serves as "convener" for the watershed approach, operating as a point of contact for the many parties, and facilitating collaboration, communication and sharing of resources. NepRWA also provides crucial administrative support, patience, good will and able facilitation of many meetings.

Watershed Community Council

NepRWA also hosted the June 1994 forum which helped to set the Initiative agenda and is convening a second forum in November 1995 to set priorities for the Watershed Management Plan and further actions to be reviewed and implemented through a Watershed Community Council made up of representatives from the cities, towns, businesses, industry, landowners, citizens, teachers and students.

Stream Teams or subwatershed groups

These local groups, organized around tributaries and segments of rivers and streams, are major players in determining the health of the river and what to do to preserve or restore it. Six subwatershed Stream Teams are now active in the Neponset River watershed. Through action plans developed from citizen conducted Shoreline Surveys, the Stream Teams have set realistic goals for short and long term protection of the valued resources. All groups have worked with town officials on addressing specific remediation of problems such as poorly functioning storm drains, degraded habitat, illegal sewer hookups, leaking pipes, erosion, dumping, and limited or no access to the river itself for fishing or canoeing.

EOEA/DEP Basin Team

Field staff from the Department of Environmental Protection, Divisions of Marine Fisheries and Fisheries & Wildlife, Riverways Program of DFWELE, Department of Environmental Management, Environmental Protection Agency, and United States Geological Survey combined their observations and monitoring to complete a comprehensive resource assessment of current water quality and habitat conditions. The DEP preliminary assessment report is organized by subwatersheds and describes the conditions and suggests goals for improvement for each subwatershed. The DEP Team staff are working closely with the Stream Teams and the watershed association to determine what kind of a Management Plan will

help focus resource protection and remediation efforts to match priority concerns identified by the Basin Teams, the Stream Teams and NepRWA. They are also assisting towns and businesses in finding funding and technical assistance in cleaning up the "hot spots" which have the most impact on water quality in sensitive areas.

Technical Advisory Group (TAG)

The TAG has provided an excellent forum for NepRWA and subwatershed groups to consult industry experts, government officials, and other Stream Teams about issues in their area. This group, meeting monthly, has focused on providing education and technical assistance on some of the really difficult long-standing problems in the watershed. The TAG has also assisted Stream Teams in getting the information needed to work with conservation commissions, sewer and water boards, and local Departments of Public Works on remediation of conditions found in their Shoreline Surveys.

Municipalities and businesses

One staff person working out of the NepRWA office for the watershed approach focuses entirely on making sure that the various municipal boards understand the watershed approach and take advantage of working with the basin team in assessing conditions and finding solutions. This person is also responsible for meeting with various businesses in the watershed to encourage their participation at all stages.

So how does the Watershed Initiative play out in other parts of the state?

As most of our readers know there are many, many watershed associations and Adopt-A-Stream groups actively working on river and watershed protection across the state. The Watershed Initiative with its basin teams, expanded to include all EOEA agencies, will provide a context for integrating the work of local groups with that of the agencies. This will help raise awareness about the importance of what watershed and municipal groups are doing. It should also give watershed groups and towns access to more technical assistance and funding to implement actions to protect and restore natural resources. Each of the 28 watersheds is in the EOEA schedule for assessment, planning and implementation. (See related article in this issue, "Speaking for the Rivers.") While originally set up to gather information for permitting of water withdrawals and waste water discharges, the basin teams are looking to expand their efforts to include data and recommendations for fisheries restoration, recreation planning and greenway protection.

The Initiative still must explore further what ways it can assist in better delivery of technical services, the funding of management plans and specific projects. While assessments in all watersheds will be improved, it

is expected that at least one more watershed each year will be selected through a state grant program for the comprehensive approach to watershed management as started in the Neponset River watershed, provided that funding comes through in the Open Space Bond. This funding would also provide for grants for at least five more watersheds each year to develop the structure and functions needed for implementing the watershed approach to resource protection.

Join representatives of watershed associations, conservation districts, lake and pond associations, land trusts, state and federal agencies, legislators, business leaders and other environmental organizations and interested citizens at the statewide **Watershed Conference to be held in Westminster on December 2**. Hosted by the Massachusetts Watershed Coalition (MWC) and cosponsored by Riverways, this event will give added momentum to the statewide Watershed Initiative. Hear about the lessons learned from the pilot project in the Neponset River Watershed. Participate in working sessions to determine how to effectively implement the watershed approach in your watershed. Learn about the changes being made by state agencies, and how the Watershed Initiative will benefit your organization. Call 508-534-0379 for more information.

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Balancing the (Water) Budget

Stark images of cracked streambeds strewn with dead fish and stranded turtles compelled public attention on the Ipswich River this summer, which supplies drinking water to 330,000 people in 14 communities. A reach of the Charles River in Dedham ran dry amidst concern about wells withdrawing water in close proximity to the river upstream.

Rather than curbing our use of water, human response to the drought reflected an increasing reliance on water resources. As Kerry Mackin, Executive Director of the Ipswich River Watershed Association, stated in a recent newsletter,

"Most plants and animals adapt to drought conditions by using less water; we humans set ourselves apart by more than doubling our average water use during the driest periods of summer."

Since 1993, July water usage by communities in the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority system surpassed the 300 million gallon per day (MGD) safe yield. Luckily, the capacity of Quabbin Reservoir, at over 80% full, was able to withstand high summer use. It is important to note that demand management over the past decade has helped Quabbin retain this capacity. Most local streams and wetlands have no such reserve buffer to

rely on, as water conservation remains a last minute "emergency" option rather than an ongoing practice.

In most watersheds, efforts to clip peak summer demand, an annual reality for most water suppliers, came too little, too late. In the Ipswich watershed, only one community intervened early enough to lower demand and ease stress on the river. Statewide, only 20 communities declared water emergencies and several of these represent ongoing capacity problems. Yet, many local wells showed signs of contamination, as groundwater was pulled from further distances as wells were pumped.

Human water use conflicts on the south shore took another form as the drought threatened frost protection and harvesting operations of the area's cranberry crop, prompting interest among growers in drilling emergency water supply wells. Often, these bogs are an integral part of a coastal stream network that also supports herring runs - and fall is also the time when juveniles need sufficient water to migrate out of the streams to the sea. (See related article, Spring Forward...Fall Back in this issue.)

Fall rains have eased the strain somewhat, but according to a recent Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) update, this summer's drought will continue to haunt our rivers and streams. An annual deficit in rainfall continues; statewide, we are ten inches below normal rainfall as of September. In July, the United States Geological Survey (USGS) network of monitoring wells showed record low groundwater levels. Groundwater may take two to three months to recharge from rains. According to MEMA, a dry winter will leave us with "a big problem in the spring." Copies of MEMA's findings are available from Riverways.

Members of the Instream Flow/Water Quality Subcommittee of the Merrimack Initiative, have expressed a need to gather anecdotal observations and actual measurements of the response of the watershed's aquatic community to the drought. Volunteer water quality monitors, anglers, canoeists, and other river users and observers are invited to contact Karen Pelto of the Riverways staff at 617-727-1614 ext 359 with comments and photos of the drought's impacts to your stream. This information will also be shared with the Massachusetts Water Resources Commission.

For updates on rainfall, surface, and groundwater levels, consult the MA/RI USGS Home Page on the World Wide Web directly by using the following WWW URL:

http://mass1.er.usgs.gov/current_cond.html.

(Sidebar to article)

The Summer of 1995 Drought: Rainfall Shortfalls

Department of Environmental Management
 Division of Resource Conservation
 Office of Water Resources
 Water Resources Data Collection & Analysis Program

Region	Excess/Deficit Last 12 Months
STATE	-10.71 inches
NORTHEAST	-9.15
SOUTHEAST	-7.39
CENTRAL	-10.49
CONN RIVER	-7.52
WESTERN	-14.02

For additional information contact Peter Phippen or William Salomaa of DEM at 617-727-3267.

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Adopt-A-Stream at Work: Becoming Advocates

What exactly is advocacy? The American Heritage Dictionary defines **advocacy** as the *active support of a cause, idea or policy*, and **advocates** as *those who speak in favor of or recommend; one who argues for a cause; a supporter, defender or intercessor*. This does not sound daunting. Why do some embrace advocacy and others shrink from it?

People who do become advocates say that when they began working to protect their stream, they had no idea where it would lead, but, once involved, they "just had to do it." They also say that while it may have been hard, or time consuming, (or both) their work to protect the river may have been the most important thing they have ever done. This sense of mission overcomes oft-cited obstacles to advocacy: lack of time and fear of controversy. Advocates have found that people ultimately respect those who work for causes when they act from a sense of mission and responsibility. As a result, active, interesting new members are drawn to those groups. People learn to think like a river and speak for their river.

Below we've highlighted a few samples of the effective advocacy taking place across the state by small and large Adopt-A-Stream Groups. These watershed groups have managed to become leaders for their river and its needs with little or no staff support. But they have a vision for their river and are not acting alone.

Water Quality

ROW, Restore Olmsted's Waterway has championed the Muddy River, a small tributary of the Charles River that is the backbone of Frederick Law Olmsted's celebrated "Emerald Necklace" park system. An obstacle they have overcome is lack of awareness and recognition that untreated domestic sewage is discharged into the river via storm drains (so-called "illicit connections.") ROW has persevered in finding the key legislators or town officials who will listen, become allies, and push for more information, enforcement, and money to see the issue addressed to their, and the river's, satisfaction.

Despite documentation of sewage discharges back in 1979 in a study conducted for the Metropolitan District Commission, in 1984, Brookline residents heard from the Department of Public Works that "Brookline is not dumping one teaspoon of anything in that river." After a 1986 Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) report confirmed high fecal coliform counts in the Muddy, ROW, with the help of legislators, secured an appropriation of \$150,000 for an engineering study to confirm the earlier work. As a result, Brookline corrected 33 cross connections in 1992 along the Tannery Brook and declared the job finished.

Toilet paper continued to trail out of storm drains. ROW then approached the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) enforcement division which acted to require the Town of Brookline, under section 308 of the Clean Water Act, to survey and report on the extent of bacterial contamination in the storm drain delivery system.

Following a series of communications and testing results, Brookline is now making corrections. Simultaneously, the City of Boston is investigating cross connections and monitoring the Stony Brook combined sewer overflow on the Fenway.

The **Hop Brook Protection Association (HBPA)** is working with the Marlboro Easterly Wastewater Treatment Plant, EPA, and DEP to reduce phosphorous loadings to their small brook that contribute to carpets of algae, low dissolved oxygen, fish kills, and degraded aesthetics. Taking a proactive approach to find solutions, HBPA sought and received grants from the Department of Environmental Management (DEM) and others to create a Constructed Wetlands Pilot Project to naturally "polish" the treated effluent to reduce phosphorous levels. The Marlboro Department of Public Works worked with HBPA to construct the greenhouse. An October 1995 open house celebrated and unveiled the project to the public. HBPA complemented this work with a Riverways *Shoreline Survey* to discover and solve nonpoint sources of pollution that contribute to the brook's water quality problems. By involving the Conservation Commission in planning and conducting the survey, HBPA solved longstanding problems along the brook.

Water Quantity

This summer, and not for the first time, the upper Ipswich River ran dry due to a combination of drought compounded by demand from its human abutters. Front page coverage in the Boston Globe North Weekly pictured the distressed river and Kerry Mackin of the Ipswich River Watershed Association, IRWA. Local papers also featured the plight of the Ipswich. The IRWA is working with industry, towns, and DEP to ensure that permitting of new wells - connected hydraulically to the river - takes into account the evidence of existing stress. IRWA also recognizes the need for ongoing commitments to water conservation, as current withdrawal levels are taxing the fish and other aquatic life that rely on this small coastal river. See related article, *Balancing the (Water) Budget* in this issue.

Protecting Habitats

For over six years, the **Jones River Watershed Association (JRWA)** has worked to protect the integrity of a coastal stream that supports populations of rainbow smelt, blueback herring, and sea-run brook trout. JRWA fought hard to retain streamflow to sustain these resources in response to repeated attempts for permission to transfer additional water out of the watershed for public drinking supplies. More recently, finding the fish run polluted by sediment, the JRWA sought and received grant monies to install and monitor *Storm Treat* stormwater treatment systems to control pollutants in "first flush" of runoff from a major road crossing. The project could not have happened without building support within the community: funding came from the local Sheehan Family Foundation, and installation and maintenance provided by the Town of Kingston. While JRWA volunteers continue to monitor the effectiveness of the system, other volunteers have conducted a Riverways *Shoreline Survey* on the Jones River as a basis for further action.

Environmental Justice

During their campaign to overturn a long-standing decision to place incinerators along the banks of the Acushnet River as an approach to treat polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), **Hands Across the River** brought together a coalition of people from Acushnet, New Bedford and Fairhaven to work together to restore the river. Projects include clean ups, water quality monitoring, school alliances, song writing, cable TV shows with advocates, state representatives, and others promoting the river's restoration. The group taught themselves about the issues, brought together towns, local citizens, and the press to begin the long process of restoring their river. Throughout the process, their mission has been in the foreground of their work.

Riverways is interested in publicizing other advocates who have persevered

in their campaign for river protection. Please let us know how we may include your work in upcoming issues.

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Speaking for The Rivers

As a service to watershed associations and Adopt-A-Stream groups, Riverways forwards copies of proposed permits that affect water quality and quantity, public access, and wetlands, in addition to copies of projects noticed for public review in the Environmental Monitor published by the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act (MEPA) Unit. The types of public notices you may have received from us in the past include permits proposed under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES), Chapter 91 Waterways Regulation Program, s. 404 Army Corps of Engineers, and Massachusetts Water Management Act. Informational materials prepared by Riverways accompany these public notices.

In order to receive notices on proposals affecting your watershed in a more timely manner, Riverways urges you to place your group directly on agency mailing lists:

- for NPDES permits, write to Jane Downing, Director, Office of Massachusetts Ecosystem Protection, Environmental Protection Agency, JFK Building, Boston, MA 02203;
- for the MEPA Monitor (which includes notices for Water Management Act permits and renewals) write to Trudy Coxe, Secretary, Executive Office of Environmental Affairs, 100 Cambridge Street/20th Floor, Boston, MA 02202 Attention: MEPA Unit.
- To be placed on the mailing list for the Chapter 91 Waterways newsletter, contact Lisa Ramos at 617-292-5757.
- To receive informational materials on any of the permits discussed in this article, contact Karen Pelto, Riverways staff, at 617-727-1614 ext 359. If you already receive public notices directly, please notify Karen so that we may avoid duplicate mailings.

Water...Wastewater...Watershed

Your participation in government decision-making takes on special meaning and importance as many water quality and quantity permits will be reviewed and issued concurrently on a scale you are most familiar with - your watershed. To find out how your watershed will be phased into the permitting schedule, refer to the adjoining table. While this presents an opportunity for you to apply your knowledge of the river network's living aquatic resources in a holistic manner, it also means that a sheaf of

paperwork will arrive in your watershed with a short turnaround time for review. The Connecticut River Watershed Council experienced this firsthand in August with the arrival of a dozen NPDES renewals for publicly-owned wastewater treatment plant discharges. Riverways is working with the Massachusetts Watershed Coalition and regulatory agencies on an outreach strategy to help groups effectively participate in watershed-based permitting.

Gearing Up for Five-Year Review

Once a Water Management Act permit is issued, it is valid for twenty years. However, that is not the only opportunity for public participation in the water allocation process.

The WMA (MGL c. 21G) regulates new or increased withdrawals of ground or surface water over 100,000 gallons per day. The WMA regulations (310 CMR 36.33) require permit holders to file for review by the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) five years after permit issuance. The primary focus of five-year review is one of compliance with permit conditions; however, any local impacts to natural or recreational resources associated with a specific withdrawal should be brought to DEP's attention.

Review of permits issued in 1990 is underway in the South Coastal and Cape Cod watersheds. In the Islands, Buzzards Bay, Concord, and Ten Mile watersheds, review of permits issued in 1991 will begin soon and continue into next year. While there is no formal public comment process for the five-year review, inquiries can be made through Lealdon Langley, Program Manager, Water Management Program, Department of Environmental Protection, One Winter Street, Boston, MA 02108. For a fact sheet and copy of the complete watershed review schedule, contact Karen of the Riverways staff.

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Reading a River: Habitat for Herring

This summer, Riverways and the Nor'East Chapter of Trout Unlimited collaborated to complete fisheries habitat evaluations on the Concord and Ipswich Rivers to document conditions for anadromous fisheries restoration.

Working with interns from the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife, Marea Gabriel evaluated stream and riparian habitat of the Concord River at eight stations as to its suitability to support spawning and

juvenile blueback herring and American Shad. Specifically, the team looked to document the dominant substrate types, level of suspended solids, stability of the bank, and available cover.

Sand was determined to be the dominant substrate type, however, silt and detritus were noted intermixed in most of these samples. Much of the bank was covered by vegetation or materials that inhibited bank erosion, however, high turbidity levels seem to contradict the bank stability findings.

Overall, instream habitat appeared suitable for shad spawning, but for the most part it appeared inadequate for blueback herring spawning. Shad egg survivability may be negatively affected by the silt and detritus observed. Furthermore, the turbidity and silt levels may negatively impact the zooplankton community, which is a food source for juvenile fish.

Assisted by volunteers from the Nor'East Chapter of Trout Unlimited, she surveyed the **Ipswich River** downstream from Route 1 in Topsfield for areas of constriction that could potentially block downstream migration of juvenile blueback herring during low flows. The Ipswich is slated for fishway construction. Ten potential areas of constriction identified during reconnaissance were visited during the summer drought; four were identified as posing possible blockage to emigrating herring. Flow and/or wetted perimeter (area of streambed covered by water) measurements were made at the four sites: below the Salem- Beverly Canal (sandbar), Winthrop Street Bridge (rock dam), below Mill Road (exposed substrate), and upstream of Perkins Island.

Marea presented her findings to Nor'East Chapter TU at their October and November meetings. Marea's work was funded by the EnTrust Foundation through Nor'East TU, under supervision of Riverways.

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Fisheries Fall Back

Along the Massachusetts coast, juvenile herring and shad are making their way down from the headwater ponds and streams where they were spawned this spring to the sea, where they will spend much of their adult lives. How many are making this journey depends on how well the developing eggs and fry were able to withstand the lower water levels and higher water temperatures that resulted from this year's drought. How successfully the journey is made depends on whether fall rains have raised water levels sufficiently to enable the herring to overcome dams and other barriers (such as roadway culverts and large debris) within the ponds and streams.

At times the migration comes to a final and fatal end, as fish are stranded in ponds or stream sections with no flowing outlet. This is especially true in periods of low flow and drought as we have experienced this summer and into the fall. Several inches of rain are needed to help flush some of the coastal pond systems and assist the emigration process.

In other cases, human mismanagement of other stream uses deals the blow. Improperly screened intakes for water supplying drinking water or irrigation systems can entrain and kill young herring. Swift dewatering of cranberry bogs can strand herring on the banks. Several hundred thousand juvenile herring have perished so far this year. Observations of fish kills or strandings can be reported to the Massachusetts Environmental Police at 1-800-632-8075. For a brochure describing the EPO's jurisdiction and responsibilities, contact Karen Pelto of the Riverways staff at 617-727-1614 ext 359.

While many fishway stewardship teams focus on keeping fishways clear of debris and free-flowing in preparation for the annual spring upstream migration of adults, there is no shortage of stewardship opportunities in the fall. Monitoring water levels, working with water suppliers, cranberry bog operators and others to ensure safe passage, and observing outgoing populations are just a few of the activities undertaken by some groups in the program.

Fall is also a good time to provide aging or poorly designed fishways some tender loving care. Last September, the Southeastern Massachusetts Chapter of Trout Unlimited helped clean out accumulated debris from the Palmer River fishway. This October, the North and South Rivers Watershed Association and Fishway Maintenance crew of the Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries (DMF) replaced thirty wooden baffles in the Indian Head River fishway. Students at the South Shore Vocational Technical School designed and manufactured the baffles. Both the Indian Head and Palmer Rivers support populations of alewives and shad.

The Riverways Programs administers the Fishway Stewardship Program in partnership with DMF. For more information on joining, contact Riverways staff Karen Pelto.

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Legislative Update

Open Space Bond Bill

Both the House (H. 5206) and Senate (S. 2076) have passed their versions of the Open Space Bond Bill. We are pleased to see that the Senate version provides for an urban river small grants program and monies to implement the watershed approach and that the House version supports a marine monitoring plan. Both versions contain Urban Self-Help monies and establish accounts that can be used to purchase riparian lands. A legislative conference committee will recommend a final joint version for both houses. The legislature is scheduled to conclude the 1995 session on November 15, 1995.

Rivers Bill

On September 18, the Senate passed the Rivers Bill (S. 1838) by a vote of 31-4. The riparian buffer established by the bill is the most cost-effective means of reducing the impact of polluted runoff into rivers. The bill is locked in House Ways and Means for the third year in a row, despite overwhelming support among a majority of House members and repeated requests to Chairman Finneran and Speaker Flaherty for its release.

Rally

On October 25, the rally held on the steps of the state house to demonstrate support for the Rivers Bill and the Open Space Bond Bill was a rousing success. Hundreds of participants from across the state attended advocacy workshops and then lobbied their legislators about the bills following speeches by their legislators and environmental groups.

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Urban Rivers Update

A proposal for a Massachusetts Urban Rivers Action Program (MURAP) developed by Riverways has received full endorsement from DFWELE Commissioner John Phillips and support from Environmental Affairs Secretary Trudy Coxe. Strong support and seed money have been committed by the USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service. The National Park Service has offered some staff and technical assistance and in-kind services. NPS staff are also interested in co-sponsoring a Massachusetts Urban Rivers Forum in 1996. There is also considerable interest in ensuring that language for an Urban Rivers Small Grants Program to be administered by Riverways, included in the Senate version of the Open Space Bond Bill, becomes part of the final bill for passage.

As we continue to seek financial support for MURAP, we plan to use present funding to free up Riverways staff for technical assistance to urban constituencies. Work already underway includes: promoting installation of

a fishing pier on the Neponset River estuary, Shoreline Survey training to Mattapan and Hyde Park communities on the Neponset River, Shoreline Surveys and alewife observations along the Mystic River, ten new Adopt-A-Stream groups on the Spicket River in Lawrence and Methuen, assisting the development of riverwalks and bike trails along urban reaches of the Blackstone, Connecticut, and Housatonic Rivers, and promoting installation of a John Todd "Living Machine" to work for a healthier ecosystem in the Fenway section of the Muddy River.

As there are many more urban river activities groups are engaged in around the state, please keep us posted. We want to work with your river activists and help you achieve your river vision.

For more information, call Maria Van Dusen at 617-727-1614 ext 360

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Access to Access

DFWELE Riverways and GIS Programs are collaborating to create a recreational data base for use by organizations who are interested in developing water trails and land trails related to water use, additional access sites, and protected riparian lands. These could include regional planning agencies (RPAs), environmental organizations and state agencies. This project is funded through the Merrimack River Initiative (MRI). The information will be included in the MRI Watershed Atlas being prepared for cities and towns and watershed groups.

Phase one covers transferring information from the AMC Canoe Guide for Massachusetts to the GIS database by the DFWELE GIS staff. Twenty-five canoe trips are included as well as access points and portage points. This coverage will be directly complementary to similar GIS coverage just completed in NH. Additional access points listed in the Nashua and Merrimack River Canoe Guides are also being put in to the GIS data base.

The second phase of this effort, outside of the project funded by the MRI, is to assist one of the RPA's in the watershed and one of the watershed associations or the AMC to take the data base and use it on their own computer system. As time allows, DFWELE Riverways and GIS Program staff will provide start up assistance in running the program and adding additional sites or data.

The information in the database related to river trips and access points and portage points includes the following:

- For access points: location, town, river name & id#, type (ramp for boat launching or car top only), parking, and relation to trips & portages.
- For portage points: location, relation to trips and access points, length, owner, permission needed.
- For trips: identifying #, source of info, name, river basin, miles in trip, relation to access and portage points, class, level of difficulty, rapids, quick, flat, lake, pond, stream, marsh, gorge, navigability, water level, seasonal, water releases, tidal, hazards, obstructions, dams, portages, scenery, land use, portages (#, length, L or R, obstacle location.

For more information, call Riverways staff Russ Cohen at 617-727- 1614 x358. [Return to table of contents](#)

Resources and Grants

Grants and Awards

The Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment seeks proposals for Coastal and Marine Environment Grants that address one or more priority areas: restoring shellfish habitat; promoting restoration of groundfish resources; identifying ecosystem and public health effect of toxics in the marine food chain; and identifying, protecting and restoring regionally significant coastal habitat. Grants of no more than \$5000 are available to nonprofits in the Gulf of Maine. For information about application procedures and matching requirements, contact Jim Doyle at 207-287-3261 or jim.doyle@state.me.us.

The **Sol Feinstein Environmental Awards** recognize individuals who improve the environment through outstanding voluntary action. The nomination deadline for the four \$1,000 prizes to be awarded in 1996 is December 29th. For more information, write to : SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry, 204 Bray Hall, 1 Forestry Drive, Syracuse, NY 13210-2778.

The **Chevron-Times Mirror Magazines Conservation Awards** honors outstanding contributions by individuals or organizations to the conservation of natural resources in North America. The deadline for nominations in the categories of outstanding Conservation Professional, Citizen Volunteer, or Organization/Public Agency is *December 31*. For guidelines, contact: Chevron-Times Mirror Magazines Conservation Awards Program, P.O. Box 7753, San Francisco, CA 94120-7553, 415-894-2457.

A total of \$150,000 is available in the first round of a five year multi-million dollar grants program for the remediation of nonpoint source pollution from roads and highways in coastal watersheds, particularly runoff contributing to shellfish bed closures. The **Roadway Runoff Remediation Program**, administered by the MA Coastal Zone Management (MCZM) office, will provide towns with small grants in the \$10-40,000 range. Project proposals are due *December 8, 1995* at 5:00 PM. For an application form and information on eligibility, contact Steve Barrett at 617-727-9530 ext 413.

The DEP's Office of Watershed Management has issued a Request for Proposals for its **604(b) Water Quality Management Planning Grants Program** in November. Submittals are due *December 20th*. Eligible recipients include regional planning agencies, conservation districts, counties, cities and towns (including conservation commissions), and other sub-state and interstate agencies. For more information, contact Christine Duerring, 604(b) RFP Coordinator, Office of Watershed Management, DEP, 40 Institute Road, Grafton, MA 01536, 508-792-7470.

The **Merrimack River Initiative (MRI)**, through the New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission (NEIWPCC), will be awarding small Local Involvement Grants ranging from \$1-5,000 to improve watershed protection, restore impaired areas, and increase resource stewardship within the Merrimack River mainstem and tributary basins. Application information is available by calling NEIWPCC at 508-658-0500. Applications must be postmarked by *December 15th*.

The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Management is now requesting proposals from municipalities and nonprofit groups who hope to involve the public in protecting community trees and forests. The maximum size of **Urban Forest Planning and Education Grants** is \$10,000, and recipients must match these funds with dollars or in-kind donations before reimbursement can occur. The deadline for proposals is *January 5* and all funds must be spent by June 30, 1997. For an application form, contact Philip Rodbell at 617-727-3180 ext. 657 and leave your name and address.

The **North American Alliance for Environmental Education (NAAEE)**, in cooperation with the EPA, has published *Grant Funding for Your Environmental Education Program* which provides strategies for identifying potential sources of financial support for projects that include an environmental education component. To order, send a request and a \$5.00 check to: NAAEE, Publications and Member Services, P.O. Box 400, Troy, OH 45373.

The Boston-based **Fund for Preservation of Wildlife and Natural Areas** is currently soliciting proposals for its next funding round. Proposals are invited from New England nonprofit conservation organizations in the

areas of land protection, stewardship, education and outreach, and collaborative efforts. Grants will not exceed \$10,000. Completed applications must be received by 5PM on *December 15*. For guidelines or more information, contact the Fund c/o the Donor Services Office, Boston Foundation at 617-723-7415.

Need guidance on how to get more money for your organization's river-protecting activities? Published by the Environmental Data Research Institute, the third (1995) edition of *Environmental Grantmaking Foundations* provides detailed profiles on 172 members of the Environmental Grantmakers Association plus 428 other foundations that give environmental grants. The book's multiple indexes on foundation location, specific area(s) of interest, types of projects funded, etc., will help you direct your proposal to the most receptive recipients. The cost is \$70 (+ \$5 shipping and handling) but should more than pay for itself through enhanced success on grant proposals. To order, call 800-724-1857.

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Services

EPA Region 1 recently announced the establishment of the **Center for Environmental Industry and Technology (CEIT)** to promote New England's environmental technologies and the region's \$10 billion environmental industry. Located at the EPA's Boston office, the CEIT will improve access to state and federal programs, provide technology demonstration projects, bring down regulatory barriers and help create marketing opportunities both here and abroad. For more information, call the CEIT at 617-575-CEIT (2348). Massachusetts EOEa has established a similar program, called STEP (Strategic Enviro Technology Partnership); call Gina McCarthy at 617-727-9800 x214 or Paul Richard at x449 for more details.

The EOEa **Office of Technical Assistance (OTA)** has received an EPA grant to help schools reduce the use of toxics, improve indoor air quality, and in general take measures to improve their environmental performance. If you are interested in receiving a free, confidential visit from OTA to help with toxics use reduction, call 617-727-3260 ext. 638 or 688.

The Mass. Division of Energy Resources (DOER)'s **Energy Engineering Program (EEP)** helps cities, towns, counties and local housing authorities design, finance and implement energy and water conservation projects at their facilities. More than two hundred private firms have expressed interest in investing in municipal energy and water conservation projects in Massachusetts. EEP provides the expertise communities need to take advantage of this "third party" financing. For more information, contact

Theresa Civic, Public Buildings Program Manager, at 617-727-4732 ext. 137.

Planning a river cleanup or other environmental restoration work and need some help with the heavy lifting? **Operation Greenguard**, a program of the **Massachusetts National Guard (MNG)**, may be able to assist you. To date, the MNG has contributed soldiers and trucks to cleanup projects along the Connecticut River in Springfield, the Chicopee River in Chicopee, the Neponset River in Canton, the Ipswich River in Middleton, the North River in Norwell and several similar projects. To submit your project for consideration, contact Myles Brown at DEP, 617-292-5789. He can fill out the application form with you over the phone or mail it to you.

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Books and Videos

Flooding is a natural hydrologic occurrence, but urban growth and other intensive development exacerbate flood-related damage to property. Floodplains defy the conventional response to construct ever-larger structural flood control systems. *River Flooding and Community Land Policy: The Great Floods of 1993* by Scott Faber discusses the ecological, economic and legal issues of land use in floodplains, and suggests alternatives to making floodplains "safe for development" through locally based planning and flood hazard management in cooperation with regional, state and federal levels of government. To order, call the **Lincoln Institute of Land Policy** at 800-LAND-USE (526-3873), choose option 2 from the voice menu, and ask for Policy Focus Report #PF003.

A Citizens' Stream Restoration Handbook, published by the **Izaak Walton League of America's Save Our Streams (SOS) Program**, teaches citizens about stream ecology, assessing watershed pollution problems, enlisting technical assistance, and designing a stream restoration project that uses vegetation and natural stream forces to improve habitat and water quality and restore aesthetic values. The handbook, which also includes project budgeting information, case studies, and an extensive bibliography, is available by sending a check for \$15 payable to the Izaak Walton League of America, 707 Conservation Lane, Gaithersburg, MD 20878-2983 or call 800-BUG-IWLA (284-4952) for more information.

The ninth edition of the *Field Manual for Water Quality Monitoring*, a standard text for school-based water quality monitoring programs, is a product of ten years of extensive experience working with middle and secondary schools throughout the world. This edition includes a revised section on the **Global Rivers Environmental Education Network (GREEN)** and a new companion scale for each benthic macroinvertebrate

illustration to show its typical size. To order, send a check for \$9.95 (includes postage) directly to co- author William B. Stapp, 2050 Delaware, Ann Arbor, MI 48103. GREEN's catalog is available from the organization at 721 East Huron St., Ann Arbor, MI 48104, 313-761-8142 (voice), 313-761-4951 (fax), green@green.org (e-mail), and <http://www.econet.apc.org/green/> (web page).

Economic valuation methods are being increasingly employed for environmental purposes such as estimating the value of maintaining access to a park, determining the worth of a quality hunting experience, or protecting a species threatened with extinction. *Fishing for Values: A Primer for River Protection Activists in the Use of Contingent Valuation as an Economic Tool for Conserving Anadromous Fisheries* by Kari Dolan and Patrick Field, published last June by the **National Wildlife Federation** and **River Watch Network**, discusses the pros and cons of using the contingent valuation method for anadromous fisheries. Fishing for Values helps river protection advocates understand, interpret and utilize the tool of economic valuation. This two-volume book should be especially valuable for those conducting a review of studies that use contingent valuation in the context of a regulatory proceeding such as a FERC dam relicensing case. To order, send a check for \$15 made out to the National Wildlife Federation, Northeast Regional Resource Center, 58 State St., Montpelier, VT 05602, 802- 229-0650.

River Watch Network (RWN) has available several books and a video that should be of interest to *Riverways* readers. The *River Conservation Through Community Action* (10 minutes, \$20) video illustrates RWN's rationale and 11-step process for setting up a successful community water quality monitoring program through the words of teachers, water quality officials, students, ordinary citizens and RWN staff. RWN's *Program Organizing Guide* (24 pages, \$10) enables groups to tailor programs to fit their specific goals, water quality issues, and human and financial resources. The *RWN Study Design Guidebook* (\$10) helps groups develop a community- based, scientifically-credible river monitoring program tailored to fit the needs, issues and resources of their community. To order, send a check plus \$2.50 shipping (more for multiple items) payable to River Watch Network, 153 State Street, Montpelier, VT 05602 or call 802-223-3840 (credit card orders, additional publications and RWN member discounts available). The *Watershed Guide to Cleaner Lakes and Streams: Actions You Can Take To Control Nonpoint Source Pollution* is intended to apply to the rural portions of the Connecticut River watershed, but many of the techniques and strategies discussed in the book should be useful for other rivers and streams. To order, send a check for \$3 payable to the Connecticut River Joint Commissions, P.O. Box 1182, Charlestown, NH 03603 or call 603-826-4800.

The **American Water Resources Association (AWRA)** has published proceedings of its Spring 1995 meeting entitled *Water Conservation in the*

21st Century: Conservation, Demand, and Supply. Topics covered include: Developing Conservation Awareness and Attitudes; Water Use Conflicts and Controversies; Documenting and Evaluating Conservation Practices; and Water Quality and Quantity Protection. To get your copy, send a check for \$66 plus \$8 postage and handling payable to the AWRA, 950 Herndon Parkway, Suite 300, Herndon, VA 22070-5528 or by credit card at 703-904-1225 (voice), 703-904-1228 (fax).

Those of you with relatively more time and less money for river protection work may want to get a copy of a free new book entitled *The Environmentalist's Guide to the Public Library*. In the spirit of grassroots activism, this guide explains how to access government environmental information services on the Internet and has a section called "Using the Public Library to Influence Business and Industry." To order, write or call: Libraries for the Future, 521 Fifth Avenue, Suite 1612, New York, NY 10175-1699, 800- 542-1918.

Four recent publications available through the **National Center for Environmental Publications and Information (NCEPI)** may be of interest to *Riverways* readers. *Cleaner Water Through Conservation*, EPA 841-B-95-002 (April 1995) describes water conservation success stories and demonstrates the benefits gained in improved water quality, protected water supplies, reduced costs for water use, and avoidance of the costs of developing additional supplies. *The Watershed Protection Approach, 1993/94 Activity Report*, EPA 840-S- 94-001 (November 1994) summarizes EPA's watershed activities and discusses future directions. *Section 319 Success Stories*, EPA 841- S-94-004 (November 1994) describes projects funded in each state through 319 (nonpoint source pollution program) of the federal Clean Water Act. The projects range from information and educational programs to highly technical applications of nonpoint source control technology. Lastly, *Guide to Septage Treatment and Disposal*, EPA 625-R-94-002, is a manual for people involved in the various aspects of domestic septage handling to help them comply with the national sewage sludge standards. These documents can be obtained from NCEPI by writing to them c/o EPA, P.O. Box 42419, Cincinnati, OH 45242-2419, or by faxing NCEPI your request at 513- 891-6685. NCEPI will usually provide one free copy of each item requested. For more information, call 513-489-8695.

Another valuable new publication available from the EPA directly is called *Environmental Planning for Small Communities - A Guide for Local Decisionmakers* (EPA/625/R-94/009). Free, it may be requested by calling the **EPA's Center for Environmental Research Information**, Office of Research and Development: Publications at 513-569-7562 (voice), 513-569-7566 (fax).

The **Conservation Technology Information Center (CTIC)**, a nonprofit technology transfer center, has recently released five guides to help people

develop watershed partnerships in their communities. The guides are part of CTIC's national **Know Your Watershed** campaign, which is being carried out in partnership with the U.S. EPA, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, the Tennessee Valley Authority and others:

- Getting to Know Your Local Watershed
- Leading and Communicating
- Building Local Partnerships
- Managing Conflict
- Putting together a Watershed Management Plan

To order, call 317-494-9555. There is a \$2 charge to cover postage and handling.

Written for conservation organizations and public agencies, **Doing Deals: A Guide to Buying Land for Conservation** will help you identify appropriate conservation opportunities, design projects, and minimize risk and frustration along the way. It explains the basics of conservation real estate and describes the technical, legal and financial strategies that produce successful conservation transactions. Written by the **Trust for Public Land (TPL)** and co- published by TPL and the **Land Trust Alliance (LTA)**, it is available for \$25 from: LTA, 1319 F Street, N.W., Suite 501, Washington, DC 20004, 202-638-4725 (voice), 202-638-4730 (fax).

Along the same lines, *Expanding Land Conservation: A Primer for New England Cities and Towns* is a new TPL publication for municipal officials, town boards and commissions as a tool for open space funding. The Primer provides information on projects across New England, and also describes the services that nonprofits can provide to municipalities. Obtain your copy by sending your complete mailing address and a check for \$10 payable to the Trust for Public Land, 33 Union St., Boston, MA 02108.

TPL has also recently produced a free 15-minute video entitled *The Power of Parks*. The video shows how parks are helping to reduce crime, spur economic development, and protect natural resources. Case studies from Los Angeles, Baltimore and Austin, TX are presented. To request a copy, contact TPL at 800-714-LAND (5263). A \$5 donation is requested to cover shipping and handling.

As many if not most of the Commonwealth's rivers are high in historic as well as natural value, river groups frequently seek to protect old mill ruins, canal remnants and other historic features along rivers as part of their overall revitalization efforts. A recent publication from Historic **Massachusetts, Inc. (HMI)** entitled *Preserving the Massachusetts Heritage: A Guide to Resources and Referrals* provides descriptions and contact information for over 100 different organizations and programs active in historic preservation in Massachusetts. To order, send a check for

\$13 plus \$2 postage payable to Historic Massachusetts, Old City Hall, 45 School Street, Boston, MA 02108 or call 617-723-3383 for more information.

Getting The Word Out In The Fight To Save The Earth, by Richard Beamish, a former director of communications for the National Audubon Society, advises grassroots environmental organizations "how to" communicate their message, raise funds, expand and activate membership, pressure government officials, mobilize the news media and shape public policy in favor of protecting rivers and other natural resources. His book is available for \$24.95 plus \$3 shipping and handling from its publisher, Johns Hopkins University Press, by calling 800-537-5487.

In a similar vein, *Enough is Enough: or Fight Back: The Hellraiser's Guide to Community Activism* by Diane MacEachern, former director of communications for the **Sierra Club's** D.C. office, was written to give ordinary people the tools to fight for change. It shares many success stories of communities organizing to fight for environmental protection. According to the author, "This book is a point of departure for people who want to organize but don't know what to do. The hardest thing about being organized is setting priorities and keeping focused - that's why you have to set an agenda that will really have an impact and stick with it until you get the job done". Published by Avon Books, MacEachern's book can be ordered through your local bookstore for \$10.

The **National Small Flows Clearinghouse (NSFC)** at West Virginia University recently announced the availability of a U.S. General Accounting Office report entitled *Water Pollution: Information on the Use of Alternative Wastewater Treatment Systems*. To order, call the NSFC at 800-624-8301 (the cost is \$2 plus \$2 shipping and handling). Two other NSFC documents you may want to order are: *Wastewater Management in Unsewered Areas* (Item #FMVTMGO!1 - \$24) and *Onsite Wastewater Treatment: Septic Tanks* (Item #WWPCDM18 - \$1.20/copy).

We have also received a copy in the *Riverways* office of a 20-minute NSFC video entitled *The Alternative is Conservation* [to sewage treatment plant expansion], put out in 1990. Let us know if you'd like to borrow it. This is a good time to remind readers that you're welcome to visit Riverways' extensive resource library covering all aspects of river and stream protection (especially citizen-based) as well as files on each of the Commonwealth's twenty-eight major rivers and their tributaries. As our library is located throughout our busy and increasingly cramped office, please call us first to arrange a mutually convenient time to visit.

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On-line Resources

Many national, state and local environmental agencies and organizations have now made the high-tech jump into cyberspace via the Internet and the World Wide Web. Those that have recently come to our attention are listed below.

The **National Audubon Society (NAS)** now has a free Internet E-mail discussion list which automatically supplies subscribers with news about key environmental issues as well as other important NAS programs and special events. You can subscribe to this list by sending an e-mail message to *majordomo@igc.apc.org* with the message "subscribe Audubon-1". No subject is needed. NAS's "Audubon Infobot", an automated e-mail-on-demand system, is available 24 hours a day. To learn about this system and what is available there, simply send an e-mail message to *infobot@audubon.org* with a subject line of "infobot" and you will get a detailed return message. The NAS Home Page on the Internet's World Wide Web is the complete on-line directory of the group's programs and its legislative agenda. You can find it at <http://www.audubon.org/audubon/>. For those without on-line capabilities, NAS's Action Line (800-659-2622) is available 24 hours a day for recorded updates on fast-moving environmental legislation.

The **Sierra Club** national office's Web site can be found at <http://www.sierraclub.org/>, where, among other things, you can access the Planet, the club's monthly activist newsletter. The Planet's October issue includes a well-written article on how to effectively communicate with legislators. To receive the Sierra Club's Action Alert list, send an e-mail message to *majordomo@igc.apc.org* that reads "subscribe sc-action". To get on the electronic mailing list for environmental alerts and other announcements from the club's Massachusetts Chapter, send an e-mail message to *jandrews@world.std.com*. Please provide your town and zip code in the body of the message.

Punitive efforts or threats against environmentalists do not go unprotested, thanks to **Global Response's** new Quick Response Network. The Network e-mails information to subscribers and gives them the fax numbers, phone numbers and addresses of the governments or companies responsible for attacks on environmentalists. To sign on at no charge, send an e-mail message to *majordomo@igc.apc.org* that reads "subscribegloberesmembers." For more information, contact: Global Response, P.O. Box 7490, Boulder, CO 80306, 303-444-0306.

Trout Unlimited's (TU) Grassroots Activist Network sends out periodic bulletins of proposed federal legislative actions affecting coldwater fisheries. For more information, contact Steve Moyer, TU National's Director of Government Affairs, via e-mail at *TroutU@aol.com* or call 703-284-9406.

The **Bicycle Coalition of Massachusetts (BCOM)**, a group which advocates the creation of a network of bikeways throughout the state, many of which are or proposed to be located on old railroad grades, sewer lines, etc. adjacent to the Assabet, Blackstone, Charles, Mystic, Nashua, Neponset, Quinebaug and other rivers, has a Web page at <http://tdc-www.harvard.edu/massbike.html>. To join BCOM's e-mail list, send a message to massbike-request@cfa165.harvard.edu. For more information, call BCOM Executive Director Helene Weitzenkorn at 617-491-RIDE (7433).

The **American Canoe Association (ACA)** - tel. 703-550-7523) World Wide Web Home Page (address: <http://world.std.com/reichert/aca.html>) contains a wide range of information about the association, its activities and paddling in general, including instruction and event schedules, trip information, photographs, conservation and access news. ACA's e-mail addresses are acadirect@aol.com for the group's national office in Virginia and acaind@aol.com for its publication *The American Canoeist*. Two new ACA programs are of particular interest to *Riverways* readers. **WAVES (Waterway Adoption by Volunteers Engaged in Stewardship)** provides technical and financial assistance to paddling clubs and other groups in maintaining a constant positive presence on adopted river segments. WAVES maintains an inventory of adopted waterway segments to help match willing volunteers with needs and ongoing efforts. The **RIPPLE (Recognizing the Impacts of Paddling on People and Local Economies)** Program is a new initiative being developed by the ACA to better quantify the positive economic and social impacts of paddling. For more information, contact David Jenkins, Director, Conservation and Public Policy, at 703-451-0141.

The **U.S. EPA's Office of Water/Wetlands, Oceans and Watersheds (OWOW)** Web Home Page at <http://www.epa.gov.owow> features the new **Water Information Network (WIN)**, a publication and information-sharing service on the state of the nation's water resources. You can access *NPS NewsNotes*, a periodic publication containing informative blurbs on successfully implemented nonpoint source pollution control techniques. (Those without Internet access can obtain a free subscription to NPS NewsNotes by contacting the Terrine Institute, 1717 K St., NW, #801, Washington, DC 20006, 202- 260-1517 (fax)). For more information on WIN, contact Karen Klima, Office of Water, U.S. EPA, 401 M St., SW, Washington, DC 20460, 202-260-7087, or by e-mail at klima.karen@epamail.epa.gov.

EnviroSense is EPA's new electronic library of information on pollution prevention, technical assistance and environmental compliance accessible via modem (703-908-2092; 8,N,1) or via its Web site (<http://wastenot.inel.gov/enviro-sense>). For more information, contact system managers Louis Paley, 202-260-4640 (BBS) or Myles Morse, 202-260-3161 (WWW).

The **National Extension Water Quality Database**, sponsored by USDA Cooperative Extension and Purdue University, is a free on-line source for over 2400 citations and more than 800 full-text documents on water quality and conservation. For more information, contact Cathy Burwell, Extension Specialist Water Quality, tel. 219-854-2309, Cathy_Burwell@acn.purdue.edu (e-mail) or Eldon Fredericks, Education Technology Specialist, tel. 317-494-8679, freder@ecn.purdue.edu (e-mail)

Some other **World Wide Web sites** that may be of interest:

Congressional Record (includes pending legislation such as Clean Water Act reauthorization): <http://thomas.loc.gov>

Environmental Law for Citizens: <http://www.econet.apc.org/celliot/cwe.html>

Environmental Education Network: <http://envirolink/org/enviroed/>

Environmental News Network: <http://www.enn.com>

Environmental Sites on the Internet: <http://www.lib.kth.se/lg.html>

Friends of the Earth: <http://www.essential.org/FOE.html>

League of Conservation Voters: <http://www.econet.org/lcv>

National Parks and Conservation Assoc.: <http://www.npca.org/home/npca/>

Natural Resources Defense Council: <http://www.nrdc.org/nrdc>

Renew America's Center for Environmental Solutions: http://solstice.crest.org/environment/renew_america/indx.html.

Last but not least, a reminder that *Riverways* staff (as well as other participating state agency staff) are now able to send and receive electronic mail via the Internet. Our Internet e-mail addresses are as follows:

- Maria Van Dusen: mdusen@state.ma.us
- Russell Cohen: rcohen@state.ma.us
- Karen Peltó: kpelto@state.ma.us
- Joan Kimball: jkimball@state.ma.us
- David McGowan: dmcgowan@state.ma.us

Other staff should be reachable in a similar manner.

Regarding the placement of our news letter on our web site, please let Russ know if you would prefer receiving future *Riverways* newsletters electronically instead of conventional "snail mail".

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Upcoming Events

Managing Your Watershed: A Series of Hands-on Workshops, sponsored by the MWC, will be conducting two free workshops from 7-9 P. M. on the evening of *November 30*: "Instream Flow" (in Sturbridge) and "Riparian Corridor Protection" (in the Lincoln/Concord area). Call the MWC to register or for more details. For more information, call the MWC at 508-534-0379 (voice), 508-534-1329 (fax).

The **Mass. Bay Marine Studies Consortium** and the ***Ad hoc* Task Force for Decentralized Wastewater Management** are co-sponsoring a conference entitled "Managing Small-scale, Alternative and On-site Wastewater Systems" to be held at Assumption College in Worcester on *December 1-2*. The conference is aimed at municipal officials, members of local conservation commissions, zoning, planning and health boards, and citizens concerned about protecting water quality. Registration costs \$40, which includes lunch on both days. For more information, contact Dr. Andrea Arenovski at 617- 287-6540.

Readers of the *Riverways* newsletter may recall an article on water trails several issues ago (Fall 1993) that described the first-ever convocation of water trails enthusiasts at Mills-Norrie State Park in Staatsburg, NY along the Hudson River. One of the outcomes from that conference was the formation of the **North American Water Trails Conference**, a nonprofit umbrella organization made up of current and potential water trail organizers and users. This group's second biennial meeting, entitled "Water Trails - Routes to Freedom", will take place from *December 2-4* in Sandestin, Florida. For more information, contact: David Getchell, Sr. RR 1, Box 3355, Appleton, ME 207-785-4079 or via e-mail at torngat@aol.com.

The Gulf of Maine: A Watershed of Watersheds, a volunteer water quality monitoring conference will be held in Portland, ME from *May 31-June 1, 1996*. For more information, contact Lissa Widoff at 617-723-7415 or lwidoff@igc.apc.org (e-mail)

. The 1996 Annual Meeting of the **American Institute of Hydrology** (AIH), entitled "Hydrology and Hydrogeology of Urban and Urbanizing Areas", will be held in Boston at the 57 Park Plaza Hotel from *April 21-26, 1996*. For more information, contact: Dr. Guillermo J. Vicens, CDM, 10 Cambridge Center, Cambridge, MA 02142, 617-252-8301 (voice), 617-621-2565 (fax), vicensgj@cdm.com (e-mail).

The **Baystate Roads Program**, an education service sponsored by UMASS and the MA Highway Dept., will be hosting a series of day-long workshops held at various locations throughout the state from *October 1995 to April 1996*. Topics include: Roadway Drainage; Anti-Icing: A New Approach; and Trees and Landscaping within the Right of Way. The cost to attend each workshop is \$25 for public sector employees and \$50 for private sector employees. For more information, call 800- 374-ROAD

(7623).

The **American River Management Society (ARMS)** will be holding "Beyond the Banks", its Third Biennial Symposium on River Management and Planning, from *June 20-24, 1996* in Columbus, OH. For more information, contact Chuck DeVilbiss, Ohio Scenic Rivers Program, 1889 Fountain Square #F1, Columbus, OH 43224, 614-265-6459 (voice), 614-267-3096 (fax), cdivel@freenet.columbus.oh.us (e-mail).

The **American Water Resources Association (AWRA)** will be holding its 1996 Annual Symposium, entitled "Watershed Restoration and Management: Physical, Chemical and Biological Considerations", in Syracuse, NY from *July 14-17, 1996*. The focus of the Symposium is the restoration and maintenance of lost or impaired watershed, stream or wetland hydrologic and/or water resource quality function. For more information, contact Dr. Peter E Black, Conference Chairperson, SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry, Syracuse, NY 13210, 315-470-6571 (voice), 315-470-6956 (fax).

The **Global Rivers Environmental Education Network (GREEN)** will host its first Conference of the Americas, entitled "Educating for Sustainable Watersheds", from *July 10-12, 1996* in Ann Arbor, MI. The purpose of the conference is to enable communities working in partnership with schools to achieve better awareness of and appreciation for environmental values through watershed-based education and action initiatives. Application forms and other information are available from: GREEN International Office, 721 East Huron St., Ann Arbor, MI 48104, 313-761-8142 (voice), 313-761-4951 (fax), green@green.org (e-mail).

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And Bear In Mind....

Private Well Owner Alert: As part of a program to protect private drinking water supplies, the Pesticide Bureau of the Mass. Dept. of Food and Agriculture (DFA) is attempting to inventory and map private wells that are within 100 feet of any public right-of-way throughout the state. Vegetated areas along many public rights-of-way are sprayed with herbicides. DFA regulations prohibit the use of pesticides on rights-of-way within 50 feet of any private drinking water supply well, and restrict their use within 100 feet of such wells. The DFA requests anyone with a private well within 100 feet of a public right-of-way contact them with the following information:

1. name of town
2. type of right-of-way (if known)

3. name of well owner
4. location of well
5. well depth in feet
6. well installation date
7. distance in feet between well head and right-of-way

The information should be sent to: Dennis Guastalli, DFA Pesticide Bureau, 100 Cambridge St., 21st Floor, Boston, MA 02202.

In the meantime, to find out what bodies of **surface water** have been tested in Massachusetts for contamination and have been found to pose a risk to human health, contact Jessica Graham at the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, 617-727-7170, and ask for a copy of a document entitled Public Health Fish Consumption Advisory List for Massachusetts Freshwater Bodies.

The **Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program (NHESP)** of the Mass. Division of Fisheries and Wildlife (DFW) relocated this past summer from the Saltonstall Building in Boston (where the Riverways office is located) to the DFW Field Headquarters, One Rabbit Hill Road, in Westboro (zip: 01581). Their new phone # is 508-792-7270 ext. 200. Everyone at Riverways misses their good company.

EnviroScape, a water pollution simulator created by JT&A, Inc., a Washington, DC firm, recently won a patent for their portable model which demonstrates how buffer strips and other management practices contain runoff in a scale-model watershed that includes homes, forest, farms, industries and a golf course. For more information, call 202-833-3380.

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Date Originally Posted: December 12, 1995

Date Last Update: December 12, 1995

Contact: Russ Cohen, Riverways WWW Coordinator at Russ.Cohen@state.ma.us

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Mass. Executive Office of Environmental Affairs
Mass. Department of Fisheries, Wildlife and Environmental Law
Enforcement

Mass. DFWELE Riverways Program

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